

**CLAIMS**

1. A utility portal frame including a base plate having an aperture to provide a portal entrance, and at least one wall dependent from the base plate, the wall extending substantially orthogonally relative to the base plate from an outer peripheral edge of the base plate.  
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2. A frame according to claim 1 adapted in use to allow the frame to be raised from a first position to a second position substantially without disturbance to material surrounding the at least one side wall.  
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3. A frame according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the frame is adapted to support a cover and the side wall extends substantially upwardly from the base plate to such a height so as to substantially align with an upper surface of the cover when engaged with the frame.  
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4. A frame according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the side extends substantially orthogonally from the outer edges of a round or oval base plate.
- 20 5. A frame according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the or each side extends substantially orthogonally from the outer edges of polygonal or triangular base plate.
- 25 6. A frame according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the frame is made from a substantially rigid or firm material.
7. A frame according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the frame is provided in a substantially rectangular, square or triangular configuration.
- 30 8. A utility portal, including
  - a frame including a base plate and at least one wall which extends substantially orthogonally from an outer peripheral edge or edges of the base plate
  - a cover engageable with the frame;

wherein said frame can in use be raised from a first position substantially below a new surface plane to a second position to align with the new surface plane substantially without disturbance to an existing surface adjacent to the frame.

- 5     9.     A portal according to claim 8, wherein the frame includes an aperture of a size to allow a human to substantially pass through the frame.
10.     A portal according to claim 8 or 9, wherein the frame is provided in substantially round or oval, rectangular, square or triangular configuration.
- 10     11.     A portal according to any one of claims 8 to 10 wherein the or each side extends substantially orthogonally from outer edges of a round or oval base plate.
- 15     12.     A method of raising a utility portal frame having a base plate and a wall dependent from the base plate and extending substantially orthogonally relative to the base plate relative to an existing material surrounding the frame, the method including the steps of lifting the frame such that the wall slides upwardly relative to the surrounding material without substantially disturbing the surrounding material.
- 20     13.     A frame substantially as herein described with reference to any one of Figures 2, 3 and/or 4.
- 25     14.     A portal substantially as herein described with reference to any one of Figures 2 3 and/or 4.